

Application No. 10/083,209

Remarks

Claims 1-11 are pending in this application. Claims 1 and 8 have been amended.

Claims 1-11 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being anticipated by Schacht (U.S. Publication No. 2003/0051011) in view of Rosen (U.S. Publication No. 2003/0048473). The Examiner cited Schacht for disclosing a system for installing printer drivers within a network where a hypertext link is displayed on the networked host device whenever it contacts the printer by way of its IP address. The Examiner cited Rosen for disclosing that two printers are connected within a network. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Claim 1 as amended claims a system for installing, on a user's host device connected to a network, a printer driver for a printer of a particular type connected on the network, comprising: a user's host device having a user interface and a web browser for accessing the network and for locating a desired printer on the network; and the desired printer having: a web server for accessing the network and for generating and displaying a web page in the user interface, wherein the desired printer's unique identification is unknown to the user and the user's host device; wherein the web page includes a link for accessing an installer; a printer driver for a printer of the particular type, wherein the network includes at least two printers of the particular type; an identifier for uniquely identifying the desired printer on the network, wherein, responsive to activating the link, the identifier stores the desired printer's unique identification on the user's host device; and wherein, responsive to storing the desired printer's unique identification on the user's host device, the web server activates the installer for installing the printer driver on the user's host device and for mapping the desired printer on the user's host device in order to enable sending of print jobs from the host device to the printer.

Claim 8 as amended claims a method for installing, on a user's host device connected to a network, a printer driver for a desired printer of a particular type connected on the network, comprising: accessing the network via a web browser; locating the desired printer on the network, wherein the printer's unique identification on the network is unknown to the user and the user's host device; displaying a web page

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generated by a web server resident on the desired printer in a user interface on the user's host device, wherein the web page includes a link for installing a printer driver on the host device and for mapping the desired printer to the host device; activating the link, wherein, responsive to activating the link, an identifier located on the desired printer stores the desired printer's unique identification on the user's host device; installing a printer driver for the desired printer on the user's host device and responsive to receipt of the desired printer's unique identification, mapping the desired printer on the user's host device in order to enable sending of print jobs from the user's host device to the desired printer; and wherein the network includes at least two printers of the particular type.

Applicants' system and method solves the problem of installing a printer driver and mapping a particular network printer onto a host device when the particular network printer's unique identification (e.g., its IP address) is not known to the host device (or the user). Once a printer is physically connected to a network, a user on the network must install a printer driver so that the user can send print jobs to the printer. In a networked print environment, installing a printer can be a troublesome task. Many installation programs search the network for all printers that match the one the user is trying to install. Printers with embedded web servers and hard disks can provide access to the printer driver installer through the printer's embedded web server. However, when the installer program is run from the printer, the installer program still searches for all printers of the selected type, since it does not know which printer it was run from. The installation program presents the user with a list of all printers of the particular type. The user must then pick out which printer it wants to install. This proves to be tedious for the user, since the list presented contains information not easily understood by the user, such as IP addresses or technical nomenclature established by the network administrator.

In contrast, the system and method described in Schacht requires the user to know the printer's IP address before the printer driver can be installed. "The process of obtaining printer driver software . . . is begun when he computer workstation 204 enters the first IP address (of the printer 202) using a web browser 403. It is assumed that the

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first IP address is known to the computer workstation, or by the workstation user." See paragraph 28 of Schacht.

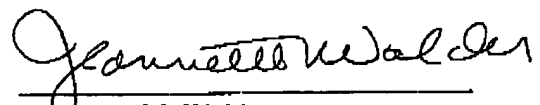
As noted by the Examiner, Schacht requires the user to know the printer's IP address and to enter it into the web browser of the workstation computer. In contrast, in Applicants' system and method, the user does not enter the IP address, the printer causes a web page including a link for accessing an installer to be displayed in the user interface of the user's workstation. The printer also includes an identifier for uniquely identifying the desired printer on the network, wherein, responsive to activating the link, the identifier stores the desired printer's unique identification on the user's host device.

Claims 1-11 are believed to be in condition for allowance.

No additional fee is believed to be required for this amendment; however, the undersigned Xerox Corporation attorney hereby authorizes the charging of any necessary fees, other than the issue fee, to Xerox Corporation Deposit Account No. 24-0025.

Reconsideration of this application and allowance thereof are earnestly solicited. In the event the Examiner considers a personal contact advantageous to the disposition of this case, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned Attorney for Applicants, Jeannette Walder.

Respectfully submitted,



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Xerox Corporation
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